

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 141261

EXDIS MIL ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECATE EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT GABORONE 1640 SENT ACTION SECSTATE
INFO ABIDJAN, BANGUI, BONN, BRUSSELS, CAIRO, DAKAR, DAR ES SALAAM,
THE HAGUE, KHARTOUM, LAGOS, LIBREVILLE, LISBON, LOME, LONDON,
LUSAKA, MAPUTO, MOSCOW, NAIROBI, NOUAKCHOTT, OTTAWA, PARIS,
RABAT, ROME, YAOUNDE 02 JUN 78

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1640

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS MOPS EFIN EAID EAID CG FR BE BC

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON MULTILATERAL PEACEKEEPING FORCE

REF: STATE 137343

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SUMMARY: DISCUSSIONS WITH RANKING GOB OFFICIALS
DURING MAY 31-JUNE 1 VISIT OF SENATOR S. I.
HAYAKAWA REVEALED GOB ATTITUDES TOWARD (A) INTER-
AFRICAN PEACEKEEPING FORCE DESCRIBED REFTTEL AND
(B) US ROLE IN IT. GOB REACTION IS TO FAVOR THE
FORCE AND STRONGLY APPROVE US SUPPORT FOR IT.

END SUMMARY.

2. MINEXTAFF MOGWE ADDRESSED SUBJECT MOST DIRECTLY AT LUNCHEON JUNE 1 IN REPLY TO HAYAKAWA'S QUESTIONS ON GOB ATTITUDE TOWARD CUBAN AND SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA. HAYAKAWA TOLD MOGWE (AS HE HAD PUBLICLY STATED EARLIER AT PRESS CONFERENCE) THAT CUBANS "RUN ANGOLA--OCCUPYING KEY POSTS IN EVERY MINISTRY". MOGWE RESPONDED THAT HE WAS NOT INFORMED ABOUT DEGREE OF CUBAN INFLUENCE OR CONTROL IN ANGOLA; HOWEVER, HE SAW A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CUBAN PRESENCE IN ANGOLA AND, FOR EXAMPLE, IN ETHIOPIA WHERE CUBANS HAD BEEN INVITED IN TO HELP MAINTAIN TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, "SOMETHING EVERY GOVERNMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO DO". MOGWE ADDED THAT HIS ONLY COMPLAINT ABOUT CUBAN PRESENCE IN ETHIOPIA WAS THAT "AFRICAN COUNTRIES SHOULD BE CALLED UPON IN THE FIRST INSTANCE TO RESOLVE AFRICAN DISPUTES". HE SPECIFICALLY REGRETTED THAT AFRICAN MILITARY FORCE WAS UNAVAILABLE TO ASSUME THIS NECESSARY ROLE.

3. THERE FOLLOWED A REVIEW OF THE SITUATION IN ZAIRE. MOGWE AND HAYAKAWA AGREED THAT FRANCE HAD DONE THE RIGHT THING BY SENDING ITS FORCES
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TO RESCUE PERSONS THREATENED BY VIOLENCE AND DEATH. MOGWE ASKED HOW LONG THE US WOULD ATTEMPT TO MAINTAIN ITS DETACHMENT FROM THE REAL PROBLEMS OF AFRICA; HE REFERRED IN JOCLAR FASHION TO US CONTRIBUTION OF "COCA COLA AND BAND-AIDS". I OUTLINED LEGISLATIVE RESTRICTIONS WHICH INHIBIT THE PRESIDENT, AND THE REASONS UNDERLYING THEM. HAYAKAWA AGREED THAT CONGRESS HAS TIED THE PRESIDENT'S HANDS ON BOTH ARMS TRANSFERS AND ARMED INTERVENTION; HOWEVER, HE BELIEVED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WERE AHEAD OF GOVERNMENT ON THIS ISSUE AND WOULD CERTAINLY APPROVE OPERATIONS TO RESCUE PERSONS ENDANGERED BY HOSTILE FORCES. MOGWE WAS INTRIGUED BY THE SENATOR'S COMMENTS THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE MIGHT APPROVE CHANGE IN POLICY

4. IN FURTHER COMMENT ON SENATOR HAYAKAWA'S REPEATED CONDEMNATION OF SOVIET/CUBAN INTERVENTION, MOGWE SAID HE AGREED SUCH INTERVENTION SHOULD BE DEPLORED. "BUT," HE ASKED, "WHERE DO YOU GO IF THE WEST HAS TURNED DOWN YOUR REQUEST FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE WHILE, AT THE SAME TIME,

RUSSIA, CHINA AND CUBA OFFER TO MAKE ANY AMOUNT OF ARMS AVAILABLE PROMPTLY AND ON EASY TERMS?" HAYAKAWA HESITATED, THEN SAID HE REGRETTED WE HAD REACHED THE POINT WHERE COUNTRIES HAD NO OPTIONS TO PROCURE ARMS EXCEPT THOSE OFFERED BY COMMUNIST COUNTRIES.

5. COMMENT: NEITHER MOGWE NOR PERMSEC MPOTOKWANE TOLD THE SENATOR THAT BOTSWANA IS IN THE VERY SITUATION DESCRIBED BY MOGWE'S QUESTION, I.E., THEIR URGENT REQUESTS FOR US MILITARY ASSISTANCE HAVE BEEN TURNED DOWN. THE ONLY REASON GOB HAS REFRAINED FROM OBTAINING COMMUNIST ARMS IS THE PROMISE OF A US PROGRAM GRANT WHICH THEY ARE STILL CONFIDENTIAL

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PATIENTLY AWAITING NEARLY SIX MONTHS AFTER IT WAS OFFERED AND NEARLY FIVE MONTHS AFTER GRANT WAS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE BY USG. CONSIDERING GOB'S CONCERNS, IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT MOGWE FAVORS AN INTER-AFRICAN MILITARY FORCE ALONG THE LINES DESCRIBED REFTEL AND THAT GOB WOULD WARMLY APPROVE US SUPPORT FOR IT. END COMMENT.

6. AS INDICATION OF STUDENT/YOUTH OPINION WE MIGHT NOTE THAT AT SEPARATE LUNCHEON WITH OTHER HAYAKAWA STAFFERS THE (SOUTH AFRICAN) BLACK PEOPLE'S CONVENTION (BPC) SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (AND INSTRUCTOR AT UBS), HARRY NENGWEKHULU, HELD FORTH AT SOME LENGTH CONCERNING THE ALLEGED ERRORS IN USG POLICY ON AFRICA. CONCERNING WESTERN INTERVENTION IN SHABA, HE SAID IT HAD BEEN DONE UNDER THE GUISE OF SAVING LIVES BUT, IN REALITY, WAS DICTATED BY THE WEST'S NEED TO PROTECT ITS INVESTMENTS AND TO SECURE ITS SOURCE OF COPPER AND COBALT. HE IMPLIED THAT WE SHOULD ALLOW THE OVERTHROW OF MOBUTU TO TAKE ITS INEVITABLE COURSE, I.E., WHEN HE SAID THAT EXPLOITATION OF BLACKS WAS NOT THE MONOPOLY OF WHITES, AND THAT MOBUTU WAS "JUST THE SAME AS VORSTER".

7. COMMENT: WHILE PEOPLE SUCH AS NENGWEKHULU WOULD NO DOUBT FIND AN INTER-AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE MORE ACCEPTABLE THAN WESTERN INTERVENTION, HE WOULD PROBABLY REMAIN VERY SUSPICIOUS OF A FORCE COMPRISED OF THE MORE CONSERVATIVE AFRICAN COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IF USED TO PROVIDE STABILITY TO REGIMES SUCH AS MOBUTU'S. AS INDICATED PARAS CONFIDENTIAL

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2-5, ABOVE, GOB POSITION ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES
ARE FORMULIZED QUITE INDEPENDENTLY OF STUDENT/
YOUTH OPINION.
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